

REMARKS

Status of the Claims

- Claims 11, 14-28 are pending in the Application after entry of this amendment.
- Claims 1-16 and 18 are rejected by Examiner.
- Claim 17 is objected to by Examiner.
- Claims 1-10, 12-13 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.
- Claims 17 is currently amended by Applicant.
- Claims 19-28 are added by Applicant.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter in the Office Action dated 1/16/04. Specifically, the Examiner objected to dependent Claim 17 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but indicated that Claim 17 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Applicants have amended dependent Claim 17 to be in independent form by including the limitations of base Claim 14. Applicants state amended Claim 17 overcomes the objection and places the claim in a condition for allowance.

Amendments and Added Claims

Claims 1-10 and 12-13 and have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicant has added Claims 19-28 to further claim that which he regards as his invention. Applicant submits that no new matter has been added as a result of the present claim amendments or additions.

Claim Rejections Pursuant to 35 U.S.C §103

Examiner has rejected Claims 1, 4, 6, 12-13 under 35 U.S.C §103(a) as being unpatentable over US. Pat. No. 6,246,415 to Grossman in view of US. Pat. No. 5,596,686 to Duluk. Additionally, Examiner has rejected Claims 2-3, 5, 7-10 under 35 USC §103(a) as

being unpatentable over US. Pat. No. 6,246,415 to Grossman in view of US. Pat. No. 5,596,686 to Duluk and further in view of US. Pat. No. 6,091, 422 to Ouaknine et al.

Applicant has cancelled Claims 1-10, 12-13 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Examiner has rejected Claims 14-18 under 35 U.S.C §103(a) as being unpatentable over US. Pat. No. 6,480,205 to Green et al. The Examiner states in the Office Action dated 1/16/03 that "...Green does not disclose rendering the objects whose surrogate volume has a depth value equidistant to the eye with the depth value of the tile including the surrogate volume; however, it would have been obvious to one of skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include this feature to make the system for efficient since it would have eliminated the time process for rendering the objects."

It is noted that the Examiner has provided no document supporting the position that the missing elements of Green et al. are substantively present in the prior art. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner provide either a reference or an Affidavit supporting his conclusion to substantiate the rejection. Otherwise, Applicant respectfully considers the 35 U.S.C §103(a) rejection of Claims 14-18 to be improper and submits that a prima facie case of obviousness has not been substantively established. Applicant respectfully traverses the 35 U.S.C §103(a) rejection of Claims 14-18 and requests respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the §103 rejection.

The Examiner has rejected Claim 11 under 35 U.S.C §103(a) as being unpatentable over US. Pat. No. 6,674,430 to Kaufman et al. The Examiner states that it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art that Kaufman's set of geometry and CUBE-5 pipelines can perform the claimed functions of "transformation data from object space coordinates into eye-space coordinates, performing requested lighting operation, clipping the transformed data in clip space, and projecting resulting coordinates into window-space" because the standard pipeline processors (Kaufman, figure 32) are designed to perform the basic geometry processing such as perspective projection, lighting/shading objects to enhance the quality of displayed object."

It is noted that the Examiner has provided no document supporting the position that the missing elements of Kaufman et al. are substantively present in the prior art. Applicant

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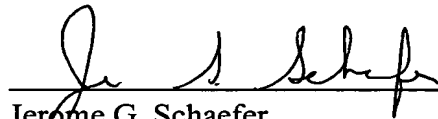
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respectfully requests that the Examiner provide either a reference or an Affidavit supporting his conclusion to substantiate the rejection. Otherwise, Applicant respectfully considers the 35 U.S.C §103(a) rejection of Claim 11 to be improper and submits that a prima facie case of obviousness has not been substantively established. Applicant respectfully traverses the 35 U.S.C §103(a) rejection of Claim 11 and requests respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the §103 rejection.

Conclusion

Applicant respectfully submits that the amendments and additions place the claims in a condition for allowance by overcoming the Examiner's objections or traversing the Examiner's rejections. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration for all pending claims and an appropriate Notice of Allowance.

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